[18th January 1949

Mr. PRESIDENT :—" I suppose the House will have no objection to rise at 4-30 p.m."

IV.—STATEMENT OF DEMANDS FOR GRANTS FOR EXCESS EXPENDITURE IN 1945-46.

The Hon. Sri B. GOPALA REDDI :—" I present the statement of Demands for Excess Expenditure in 1945-46.

" Hon. Members are aware that during 1945-46, there is excess expenditure under certain demands and that has to be regularized by the Legislature. I suppose the discussion is to take place on the 22nd."

Sri B. BHIMA RAO :—" Mr. President, might I ask what is the necessity for a discussion; it is something like a post-mortem examination ; this occurred during the Adviser's Government."

Mr. PRESIDENT :—" Now the statement has been placed before the House and on the point he has raised, he might address when it is taken up for discussion and comment upon it."

NON-OFFICIAL BUSINESS.

3-30 p.m.

V.—THE MADRAS HINDU BIGAMOUS MARRIAGES PROHIBITION AND DIVORCE BILL (L.A. BILL No. 6 OF 1947) AS PASSED BY THE ASSEMBLY.

Mr. PRESIDENT :—" The House will now resume consideration of the Madras Hindu Bigamous Marriages Prohibition and Divorce Bill. The House will remember that the general discussion on this Bill went on for one full day and at the close of the day some hon. Members expressed their desire to participate in the further discussions of the Bill and that is why the discussion was postponed. If any hon. Member is desirous of offering his remarks, he might do so now."

* Sri S. B. ADITYAN :—" Mr. President, there is one point on which I seek clarification from the Government. Since the discussion last took place, a note appeared in the newspapers to the effect that the Madras Government have taken a definite stand in the matter of reform of the Hindu law. They have said that the Hindu Code is very near completion and it is expected to become law within a matter of weeks and so the reform of the Hindu law, as for instance, the Thiya personal law, would not be proceeded with. Having stated that, may I know if there is any alteration in their attitude to this Bill ? "

Mr. PRESIDENT :—" When did it appear ? "

Sri S. B. ADITYAN :—" Some ten days ago, Sir. In view of the fact that the Hindu Code is very near completion and its passing by the Central Legislature is imminent, they said they would not proceed with any reform of personal law and they mentioned the Thiya personal law in particular. Might I know if there has been any change in their attitude since then ? "